



United States Department of State
and the Broadcasting Board of Governors
Office of Inspector General

Inspection of U.S. Mission to the United Nations and Other International Organizations, Geneva, Switzerland



The U.S. Mission to the United Nations and Other International Organizations has worked diligently and with success to meet its priority strategic goal of promoting the interests of the United States in multilateral UN organizations based in Geneva. The achievement of some key policy goals in human rights, economic, and other areas has been inhibited by unclear policy guidance and the lack of a single point of contact in the Department corresponding to a country desk.

After a number of years of static budgets and increasing costs, the mission offered buyouts to senior locally employed (LE) staff in order to meet a mandated budget rescission this fiscal year. This action, coupled with several severances for cause, resulted in 12 vacant positions in the management section, leaving it critically understaffed and in danger of becoming unable to provide adequate services to its clients.

The current arrangements for staffing and funding the mission's conference services office cannot be sustained and are inherently inefficient. This strongly performing office, which supports 4,000 delegates per year, needs to be reviewed and regularized.

OIG Report ISP-I-08-51A, Inspection of U.S. Mission to the United Nations and Other International Organizations, Geneva, Switzerland.

The fieldwork for this report was conducted by the Office of Inspections in Geneva, Switzerland between May 2 and 21, 2008. This is an unclassified summary of a full report, which receives limited official distribution. Both the report summary and the full report reflect the conditions reviewed during the fieldwork.